

# Record

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MISSISSIPPI  
BAPTISTS

## MC among first to gain degree nod

The Masters of Education in Dyslexia Therapy degree at Mississippi College (MC) in Clinton has been approved by the Mississippi State Board of Education as a graduate degree meeting all requirements for an advanced degree by elementary and secondary licensed teachers.

The college, which is affiliated with the Mississippi Baptist Convention, is one of the first in the nation to be accorded this status.

The State Board of Education has established licensure requirements for holding an "AA" Teaching License in Dyslexia Therapy. Those requirements include holding a valid standard "A" teaching license (valid for five years) and completion of a master's degree in dyslexia therapy. The AA License may be added to an existing A License for both elementary and secondary level teachers.

## IMB trustees reverse removal request

ROGERS, Ark. (BP, ABP, and local reports) — "Constructive conversations appear to be bearing fruit" in the conflict between International Mission Board (IMB) trustees and an Oklahoma pastor who also serves as a trustee, board chairman Tom Hatley told Baptist Press on February 16.

Hatley, pastor of Immanuel Church in Rogers, Ar., announced February 15 that the trustees' nine-member executive committee is recommending the board withdraw its January 11 request to the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) to remove the pastor, Wade Burleson, as a trustee. Such action was described at the time as very rare in Southern Baptist life.

Burleson is senior pastor of Emmanuel Church in Enid, Ok.. A former president of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma (BGCO), Burleson has been publicly critical of recent IMB policies implemented by the trustees, including a prohibition against missionary candidates who use a "private prayer language."

"I have spoken several times since our [January] meeting in extensive conversations with Brother Wade... and I am very optimistic that our relationships will be more harmonious in the future," Hatley told Baptist Press.

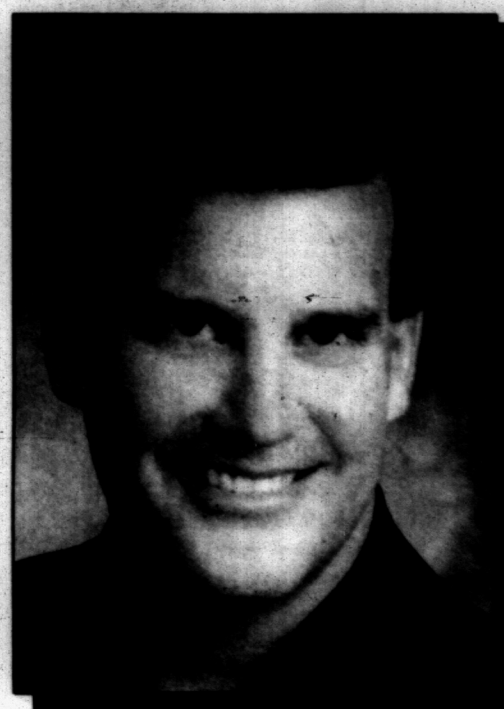
Hatley noted on February 15 that the trustee executive committee had moved toward options by which trustee accountability can be handled internally. In the interview on February 16, Hatley recounted that after the board's meeting last November in Huntsville, Ala., he had asked the trustees' orientation committee to study the accountability of trustees to each other — "to sharpen the guidelines that we're going to hold each other to."

The orientation committee has forwarded a preliminary report to the trustees' administrative committee, which will discuss the report during the March 20-22 board meeting in Tampa, Fla.

Trustee accountability guidelines and a possible committee to handle trustee-to-trustee conflict, Hatley said, "can be helpful to every trustee, not just to Mr. Burleson." He said he has recounted the recent developments to Burleson and senses that "he is excited because he has matters of trustee behavior he would like to bring up, and he sees this as an internal forum for him to get that done. So, it's not going to serve just as a point of accountability for Wade Burleson, it'll be good for all us as far as knowing where we stand with one another and what we expect of one another."



Hatley



Burleson

Burleson, in a statement to Baptist Press regarding these steps toward reconciliation, said, "I never felt unreconciled with our board. I believed from the beginning the recommendation for my removal was unsubstantiated, without precedent and ultimately unnecessary. Healthy boards learn to work with people who disagree for the good of the Kingdom. We are getting there. I have the utmost respect for the men and women who serve the IMB as a trustee. I remain steadfast in my desire to work with my fellow trustees to make the IMB even better. I reaffirm my commitment to abide by every policy and procedure of the board as I continue blogging."

Burleson's Internet weblog about IMB trustee actions had been a key factor in the action taken against him during their January 9-11 meeting in Richmond, Va. A web log, or "blog," is a type of Internet journal that is frequently updated with personal views intended for public consumption.

The trustees' original attempt to oust Burleson has set off a firestorm of controversy among Southern Baptist bloggers and chatrooms elsewhere on the Internet. Many of them have vowed to turn out in large numbers at the SBC meeting to vote against the recommendation to remove Burleson. Some have cast the conflict in generational terms, with the old guard of conservatives who led the SBC's rightward shift during the 1980s butting heads with a cadre of younger leaders who, while also conservative, want more power-sharing in the denomination.

Burleson posted a blog Feb. 16 that expanded on his conversations with IMB Chairman Hatley. The discussions were prompted in part by a statement in Baptist Press Feb. 15 that "the committee determined that the matter of disciplining a trustee can be handled internally."

Hatley confirmed the phraseology to Baptist Press but clarified that he was speaking about the proposed accountability guidelines.

In his blog, Burleson wrote, "I discovered that Tom did not mean to imply that the Board would discipline me... In no way was he referring to me specifically. I thanked Tom for this explanation, and I told him that people reading the article, including Baptist editors nationwide[,] were adding a subtitle that said, 'Trustees to seek discipline internally' and made it sound like the Board would seek discipline behind closed doors..."

Burleson also blogged about his exchange with Hatley as to why this

option to remove him as a trustee was selected in the first place, and his concern that the record be expunged regarding the original charges. Burleson's blog can be read at [kerussocharis.blogspot.com](http://kerussocharis.blogspot.com).

Both Hatley in his statement to Baptist Press and Burleson in his weblog spoke favorably of the candor and graciousness in their exchanges.

Burleson, in his statement to Baptist Press, said he hopes 2006 will be "the best year ever for the International Mission Board. I look forward to working on a framework through which principled dissent is not only well received, but used to make the IMB an even greater mission-sending ministry."

The trustee orientation committee's report likely will become public as a result of the administrative committee's discussion, Hatley acknowledged to Baptist Press during his interview with the newswire service for Southern Baptists headquartered in Nashville.

"The administrative committee can add or subtract or suggest [changes to the report] and then begin to educate the board and see if the board would like to adopt that," Hatley went on to point out. "We're not going to publish it until we see it in a final form because it can change along the way."

Hatley commented that, "Right now if you have a problem, it's in one person's head and then it goes to the full board, and there's nothing in between," potentially detracting from the board's foremost focus on "how to reach the world for Jesus."

A trustee accountability committee could "hopefully screen 90 percent of [potential trustee conflict] and solve it before it gets to the full board. And if it needs to go to the full board, then we'll have a committee in place to recommend that."





## EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



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# Battle between old, new flares again

The details contained in the article found elsewhere in this issue regarding the conflict between International Mission Board (IMB) trustees is interesting on many levels, not the least of which is the ongoing battle at the intersection of new technology and the old way of doing things.

It seems that IMB trustees have voted to approve a new policy prohibiting the use of a "private prayer language" by any missionary candidate. Many of the trustees apparently feel that a private prayer language is akin to glossolalia, or speaking in tongues — an issue that has divided Baptists almost from the beginning. For IMB trustees opposed to the practice, using a private prayer language is the same as speaking in tongues, only in the privacy of one's individual prayer time with God.

Private prayer languages are thus forbidden for anyone wishing to be appointed to missionary service by IMB. There are those trustees who dissented, believing the move is politically motivated (IMB President Jerry Rankin, a Mississippi native, has said he has used a private prayer language) or that the new policy goes far beyond what Southern Baptists have codified as requirements for missionary service.

There are strong feelings on both sides of this issue. In the old days, a trustee vote would have been taken and the result of the vote would have been executed. End of conversation. Move on to next order of business.

In our modern world of mass communication, such is no longer the case. Wade Burleson, a young Oklahoma pastor and IMB trustee, does not believe the private prayer language prohibition is needed, and he does not believe that all sides of the issue have been heard. That's when he started blogging the issue. For the benefit of us old-

timers, a "blog" is short for web log. A web log is a web site that posts personal commentary to be read by any member of the public who intentionally seeks it out or accidentally stumbles across it. In other words, anyone with an Internet connection can do exactly what I'm doing right now: rendering a personal opinion on a given subject.

Burleson was doing just that and turning up the heat on IMB trustee leadership regarding what he considered to be bad policy. He used his blog to keep attention focused on the subject, believing that he was reaching a broad segment of Southern Baptists with his dissent. He criticized the vote and accused trustees to meeting in private caucuses, a blatant violation of IMB trustee guidelines.

Burleson's blogging did not sit well with IMB trustee leadership, who quickly put into motion a process to remove Burleson from the IMB board due to "broken trust and resistance to accountability."

For IMB trustee leadership, the old way of doing things was kicking in. For young ministers and others following the story on Burleson's side, the new way of doing things was kicking in. Thus began many more blogs condemning the trustee action and backing Burleson. Via the wonder of e-mail, young pastors and others built a juggernaut of opposition to the trustees' intention to remove Burleson and threatened to show up at the SBC annual meeting this summer to block the removal.

Before long, IMB trustee Chairman Tom Hatley was calling for the reversal of the action against Burleson and suggesting that any disagreements could be handled internally. For his part, Burleson has continued to blog about the private prayer language issue and the actions that have been taken against him.



The moral of the story seems to be that with the advent of blogs, Podcasts, and other futuristic communication pipelines, virtually anyone can have his/her say. There's no longer a need to buy an expensive printing press or a big-market television station to get a message across to the people.

That's a scary prospect for the Old Media, because they have no control of the New Media. Just ask Dan Rather.

It should also be exciting for Believers, because the Lord has supplied us with yet more ways to reach a lost world. Let us not run away from, but indeed embrace the technology that will help us more quickly fulfill the promise of Matthew 28:18-20.

## GUEST OPINION:



### Shaping up our faith

By David Jeremiah  
El Cajon, Ca.

Some of us lift weights and burn calories for countless hours at the gym — but do we display that same determination in our spiritual lives? Since none of us can become godly by osmosis, we need to learn to exercise our faith (Hebrews 11:6). How is your faith exercised?

• **Sit-ups.** Sit under the teaching of the Word of God every week. In Acts 20:7 we read that the disciples came together on the first day of the week to break bread and hear the teachings of the Apostle Paul.

• **100-yard dash.** Be ready to run to the aid of a hurting soul and demonstrate God's love. We were not created to live and function alone. We need one another for help and support. Ecclesiastes 4:9 says that "Two are better than one ... for if they fall, one will lift up his companion."

• **Push-ups.** A traditional push-up strengthens your chest and shoulder muscles. Lifting up a person in need builds your spiritual muscles. The Father of mercies "comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God" (2 Corinthians 1:4). Christians who have been encouraged by God should be the world's best encouragers.

• **Deep knee-bends.** If you want the Lord's blessing on your life, pray. Paul urges us to "continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it" (Colossians 4:2). It takes effort and commitment to confess your sins before God, and to pray for guidance for yourself and others. Prayer is one of the most difficult disciplines, but it leads to spiritual fitness and vitality.

• **Lunges.** Lunge into Christian service. When God shows you a need that you can fill, get involved and see the Holy Spirit work through you. "The manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all" (1 Corinthians 12:7).

• **Stretching.** Stretch out in faith. As I watched my father stretch his faith in moving from a prosperous pastorate to

an unpredictable presidency at a struggling Christian college, I learned that faith is a life-changing truth. As my father stretched way beyond his comfort zone in obedience to God, things began to take shape.

• **Walking.** Walk in the Word daily. "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). Reading the Bible is like exercise. Some days you don't feel like doing it, but you know it's good for you. Discipline yourself for godliness by making it a habit to read the Bible every day.

Being consistent in practicing these moves of an active faith is key because a "stop-start" exercise regimen rarely produces lasting results. If you want to make a

new start in your spiritual fitness routine, consult your physician — the Great Physician, Jesus Christ. Ask God to help you practice daily spiritual disciplines that will increase your faith.

Runners come to a point where they can hardly put one foot in front of another. But as they press on, their energy is replenished, and they finish the race with a great sense of accomplishment. Likewise, the road of dynamic Christian living requires perseverance.

The Bible provides incredible incentive to persevere: "[T]rain yourself in godliness, for, the training of the body has a limited benefit, but godliness is beneficial in every way, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come" (1 Timothy 4:7-8).

Unlike bodily exercise, the benefits of spiritual fitness last into eternity.

Jeremiah is the founder of Turning Point for God, senior pastor of Shadow Mountain Community Church in El Cajon, Ca., and chancellor of San Diego Christian College (formerly Christian Heritage College). For more information on Turning Point, visit [www.TurningPointOnline.org](http://www.TurningPointOnline.org). Jeremiah's commentary appears courtesy of Baptist Press.



# N.O. hospital euthanasia being investigated

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — An investigation continues into allegations of euthanasia in the days immediately following Hurricane Katrina, when New Orleans hospitals were surrounded by water and conditions were dire with little hope of evacuating patients.

National Public Radio has reported that it gained access to court documents that reveal eyewitness accounts of what happened during those days. The documents, not yet released to the public, shed light on an investigation by the Louisiana attorney general's office of doctors and nurses at Memorial Medical Center in New Orleans, where rumors indicate patients were given lethal doses of medicine because no end to their suffering was in sight.

Though more than 70 witnesses have been subpoenaed by investigators and massive amounts of evidence are being assessed, no one has yet been charged and no one has confirmed seeing doctors or nurses actually administer lethal drugs, NPR said.

New Orleans Coroner Frank Minyard told NPR it would be difficult to prove lethal doses of morphine were given to patients who could not be evacuated because the bodies were not retrieved until two weeks after the hurricane and were badly decomposed. Also, they could have been given safe amounts of the drug before the storm that would interfere with the investigation. Therefore, NPR said, investigators are relying largely on accounts from eyewitnesses.

In a report aired on the show *All Things Considered* on February 16, NPR recounts the plight of Angela McManus, whose 78-year-old mother Wilda Faye died in the hospital's seventh floor long-term care facility.

McManus was by her mother's side at the hospital as the city was overtaken by floodwaters. The building lost power, and backup generators also failed as temperatures rose above 100 degrees inside, NPR said. Gunshots and looters were closing in, and 2,000 people were trapped in the hospital.

After waiting overnight with no rescue, nurses told McManus her mother had not been evacuated but had been sedated. She returned to her mother's bed to find her sleeping and slightly able to communicate. While waiting and fearing for her mother's health, McManus said she overheard nurses saying a decision had been made not to evacuate certain patients.



SEARCHING — Petty Officer 2nd Class Shawn Beaty looks for survivors as he flies over New Orleans in a Coast Guard rescue helicopter, shortly after the massive hurricane caused disastrous levee breaks that inundated New Orleans. There are emerging reports that euthanasia was used on the sickest patients in one New Orleans hospitals as the flood waters closed in. (BP photo)

That evening, three New Orleans police officers approached her with guns drawn and said she had to leave, NPR reported, because all non-essential staff were being evacuated.

"I woke her up and told her that I had to leave, and I told her that it was OK, to go on and be with Jesus, and she understood me because she cried," McManus told NPR. "First she screamed, then she cried, and I said, 'Mamma, do you understand?' and she said, 'Yes,' and she asked me, she asked me to sing to her one more time, and I did it, and everyone was crying, and then I left. I had to leave her there. The police escorted me seven floors down."

Court documents show a discussion occurred between hospital administrators on September 1 regarding what to do with the seventh-floor patients who were in critical condition. A pharmacy director, director of physical medicine, and an assistant administrator told an investigator in the state attorney general's office that the evacuation plan for the seventh floor was to "not leave any living patients

behind," and that "a lethal dose would be administered," NPR discovered.

When reports of euthanasia in New Orleans first surfaced last fall, Southern Baptist bioethicist C. Ben Mitchell told Baptist Press the solution to the challenge of evacuating seriously ill patients was not to kill them.

"EMTs and trauma doctors make triage decisions every day. The question comes down to: Who should we save when we cannot save them all?" said Mitchell, associate professor at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in suburban Chicago and a consultant with the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religion Liberty Commission in Nashville.

"These doctors had heart-wrenching obligations to both the patients they could not move to another location and the patients they were evacuating. One thing we should be clear about: We must not countenance the intentional killing of a hospital patient."

## The Record



### THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

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### 'Plan B' enforced

WASHINGTON (BP) — Wal-Mart will sell Plan B, an emergency contraceptive with abortion-causing properties, in its Massachusetts pharmacies after a state board voted to require the retail giant to stock the controversial drug. Wal-Mart is reconsidering its nationwide policy not to dispense Plan B, also known as a "morning-after" pill. Until now, the world's largest retailer has stocked the drug only at its pharmacies in Illinois, where Democratic Gov. Rod Blagojevich ordered its sale in all pharmacies last year. Wal-Mart spokesman Dan Fogleman confirmed the chain would stock Plan B in its Massachusetts stores and indicated its policy in other states was under review. Karen Brauer, president of Pharmacists for Life International, said Wal-Mart and its customers need to take a stand. "This is one of those things where it would be really good for the consumers that frequent Wal-Mart to give their opinion on this," Brauer told BP. "I think that people are going to have to stand up and say they don't want this. People should not be going to their discount store for their abortions." If the trend of requiring the sale of abortion-causing drugs continues, pharmacies will lose as well, said Brauer, a pharmacist at a hospital in Lawrenceburg, Ind. Pharmacists who are willing to dispense the drugs "are not the best ones," she said. "Those who refuse to kill any humans really are the ones who are the safest." Melissa Kogut, executive director of the pro-abortion group NARAL Pro-Choice Massachusetts, told the *Globe*, "What's happening here in Massachusetts is really a turning point."

### Looking back

The number of Southern Baptists serving through Home Mission Board volunteer opportunities continues to rise annually, with an estimated 81,300 volunteers serving in Christian ministries through the agency in 1995, up 1.8% from the previous year.

Just in time for Valentine's Day, Ron Bennett of Woodville and Mary Hawkins of Weir are marry at French Camp Church after meeting each other in June 1985 during a volunteer mission trip to northern Argentina.

Thirty-two house trailers are granted to Mississippi College at Clinton for use of ex-service men and their families who wish to continue their studies at the college. They will be located on college property between the highway to the prisoner-of-war camp and Lake Wilson.

### Kennedy to be honored with celebration

HATTIESBURG, Ms. (Special) — William Carey College (WCC) President Larry Kennedy will be honored on February 28 for leading the Baptist-affiliated school in Hattiesburg into a new era of advancements in academics, facilities, and financial management.

The event, entitled A Celebration of Leadership — Honoring Dr. Larry Kennedy, will be held at The Lake Terrace Convention Center in Hattiesburg beginning at 3:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

During Kennedy's seven-year tenure at WCC, the school has experienced a 53% enrollment increase, almost \$17 million in capital improvements, and accreditation in 1999 for ten years by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. In addition, the school's long-term indebtedness of \$7.5 million was recently retired more than ten months early.



## Nominees sought for MBC posts

Members of the Committee on Nominations will soon begin meeting and reviewing the trustee/board member positions on the boards and commissions of the Mississippi Baptist Convention (MBC) for 2007.

According to Hal Bates, committee chairman and pastor of First Church, Collinsville, there are a limited number of vacancies to be filled on the following boards and commissions:

- Board of Ministerial Education
- Christian Action Commission
- Education Commission
- Historical Commission
- Mississippi Baptist Children's Village
- Mississippi Baptist Foundation
- Baptist Health Systems, Inc., Jackson
- Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis
- Blue Mountain College
- Mississippi College
- William Carey College
- Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

The Nominating Committee will work in conjunction with the heads of the institutions and agencies in bringing a list of nominees to be approved by the messengers at the 171st annual meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention on October 31 - November 1.

Nomination forms can be obtained by contacting the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Executive Administration, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. E-mail: [bbox@mbcb.org](mailto:bbox@mbcb.org). Telephone: (601) 292-3201 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 201. Completed forms should be mailed to the above address to be received by May 1.

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### CHICKEN LITTLE

It had been a long time since I had read, or heard, or told the story of Chicken Little. It is a great story and enjoyable to read to kids or grandkids, and while it is not a Bible story there are certainly biblical morals that can be seen all through it. Recently, when it came out on film I was pulled into going to see it in its modern version. The story has not changed and hopefully, the lessons will be learned by our new generation. When Chicken Little was bumped on the head by a falling acorn, he thought the sky was falling. He started screaming to everyone about what was happening in the world and his terrible plight. The sky is falling! The sky is falling! What could we possibly learn from Brother Chicken Little?

Well, for one thing we could be reminded that you do not need to panic about every little thing that happens. Do you know anybody who lives in a panic mode? Honestly, it does not matter what is happening in life, every experience and every event is charged with panic because tragedy has just struck. It can be a flat tire or a broken fingernail, spilled milk or a solar flare, and their emotions go running off in every direction because the end is in sight.

The Bible clearly addresses our personal panic attacks and



## Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer  
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

tells us such pointed things as, "Be anxious for nothing." It asks questions. "Why do you worry? Which of you by giving thought or undue, overwhelming concern can add to your height?" The Lord would tell us we might need to focus more on trusting Him than being terrorized by the shifts and changes we see around us. In church you can always find some of us who are panic driven about everything that comes along. Change almost anything related to our church and its programs and there will be many voices that will let you know something sinister is taking place and no good can possibly come out of what is happening. Rather than actually giving consideration to the issue, they would rather do what someone expressed poetically, "When in trouble, when in doubt, run in circles, scream, and shout." Usually, following those instructions gains attention and more often than not builds a following — but equally important to remember is the

fact that the sky is usually not falling and the end of the world has not come.

Another important lesson to be learned from Chicken Little is not to measure the full scope of life based on one incident. Pausing to see the bigger picture could change everything. Years ago at a church where I was serving, a dear man in the church had a serious illness. He had been rushed to a major, world-renowned hospital where he received treatment, surgery, and healing. To everybody's surprise he came home and was doing great. Several days after getting home a large envelope arrived. The man opened the envelope and began to look at page after page of the hospital bill. He discovered that the bill was thousands and thousands of dollars — almost one hundred thousand dollars. He was a man of limited means and knew that there was no way that he could ever pay the hospital bill. So within hours of receiving the information, he quietly went into another room and took his life. He said nothing to anyone, not to a family member, not to his wife, and not to any of his friends. He just went and ended it. The reality was that after Medicare and his own insurance supplement paid, he owed virtually nothing. He was neither the first nor the last person to place the weight of all of life on just a single incident. He failed to see there was more to come.

The disciples were close to doing that in those days when the only thing they could see were the leftovers of the cruci-

fixion. A huge rock sealed the tomb, and they were unable to see anything else. Discouragement, despair, depression, and darkness surrounded them. All of us have had some of those moments in life when all we could see was the failure from which there was no recovery. It may have been a test that you failed, a relationship that was in ruins, a game that was lost, or a tumor that was found. In every situation we need the light that comes from trusting in a God that can make a difference where there seems to be no way. For those early disciples, rather than the sky falling, the earth would shake, and a huge rock would roll away.

One final wonderful truth that can be found in this ancient chicken story is that it is wonderful to have folks around you who will stick with you, care about you, and lift you up when you are down. He may have been a little chicken, but he had big friends. God in His marvelous grace and creative genius has provided for us a family of faith that surrounds us and can make the difference in our life.

The writer of Ecclesiastes gave us some brilliant insight into relationships that will make a difference when he tells us, "Two are better than one because if one falls, the other one can pick him up, or if one is cold the other one can help keep him warm." Our great God loves us and puts us in a relationship with Him and with each other so that in the family of faith we are not all alone. What we need and are unable to provide for ourselves the Lord has blessed us with in placing others around us. Sometimes the sky is falling and sometimes it just appears that way, but all of the time the Lord has provided someone to care about us, to love us, and to encourage us.

The author may be contacted at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. E-mail: [jfutral@mbcb.org](mailto:jfutral@mbcb.org).

### Holland America Line Outside Cabins from \$2099\*

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## 19-Day Panama Canal Cruise

Join your Spiritual Director Baptist minister Rev. Billy Williams on this Your Man Tours' exclusive 19-day cruise. This will be Rev. Williams third trip as YMT's Baptist chaplain. On October 23, 2006 board your Holland America Line 5-STAR ship, the *ms Ryndam* in Los Angeles. HAL's *Signature of Excellence* focuses on spacious elegant ships and accommodations; sophisticated five-star dining; gracious, unobtrusive service; and extensive enrichment programs and activities aboard ship. Mexican Riviera ports include: Cabo San Lucas; Puerto Vallarta (the quintessential resort overflowing with the charm of Old Mexico); and the small, friendly fishing village with spectacular vistas: Puerto Santa Cruz Huatulco. Next there's Quetzal, Guatemala. Here you may tour the museums, or visit a jade factory. Shore excursions may take you to see a volcano: three out of 33 in Guatemala are active. On November 1 you'll find yourself in Costa Rica. Ecological shore excursions to the interior rain forests are highly recommended. Next is the highlight, the daytime Panama Canal crossing where you will be raised and lowered by giant locks. You will slowly float through the lush jungle and cross the rugged continental divide via 45 miles of canals and the largest man-made lake in the world: Gatun Lake. Next visit Cartagena, Colombia; Costa Maya, Mexico; and Cozumel, Mexico in the Caribbean Sea. You'll fly home from Tampa November 10. \*Prices (per person, double occupancy) start at only \$2099 for outside ocean view staterooms; and \$3099 for larger outside staterooms with private balcony. Add \$539 port/taxes/gov't fees/services. Add \$500 round trip airfare from Jackson, MS or Birmingham, AL. Add \$600 round trip airfare from Memphis, TN or Gulfport/Biloxi. **\$199 Deposits are now due. Cabins are selling out fast!**

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Tuesday, February 28, 2006

3:00 p.m.

Lake Terrace Convention Center  
Hattiesburg, Mississippi



What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

# HOUSE TOPS.

Matthew 10:27 NAS

February 23, 2006

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.

## STATE BIBLE DRILLS

DATE	LOCATION	REGISTRATION	DRILLS BEGIN
Thursday March 30	Biloxi, FBC	2:00-4:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.
	Hernando, FBC	2:00-4:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.
Friday March 31	Brookhaven, FBC	2:00-4:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.
	Greenwood, FBC	2:00-4:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.
Saturday April 1	Jackson, Alta Woods BC	8:30 a.m.-noon	9:00 a.m.
	Madison, FBC	8:30 a.m.-noon	9:00 a.m.
Monday April 3	Starkville, FBC	2:00-4:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.
Tuesday April 4	Tupelo, FBC	2:00-4:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.
	Tupelo, Harrisburg BC	2:00-4:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.
Thursday April 6	Petal, Petal-Harvey BC	2:00-4:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.
	Meridian, Poplar Springs Drive BC	2:00-4:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.
Friday April 7	Laurel, Salem Heights BC	2:00-4:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.

## STATE JR. HIGH BIBLE DRILL TOURNAMENT

Saturday April 8	Clinton, FBC	12:15-1:00 p.m.	1:00 p.m.
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## STATE SCHOLARSHIP BIBLE DRILL TOURNAMENT

Saturday April 8	Clinton, FBC	1:30-1:45 p.m.	2:00 p.m.
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Mississippi State Drills are only conducted in KJV & NIV.  
Contact Info: Discipleship and Family Ministry, 1-800-748-1651,  
601-292-3284, gshelley@mbcb.org

## STATE YOUTH SPEAKERS TOURNAMENT

DATE	LOCATION	REGISTRATION	BEGINS
Saturday, April 8	Clinton, FBC	9:30-9:45 a.m.	10:00 a.m.

Speeches must be turned in to: Discipleship/Family Ministry.,  
P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205 or Fax: 601-714-7432.  
Manuscripts are due in our office by April 3, 2006.  
(Send original to us at the above mailing address)



Annual Missions Celebration  
2006

## Live the Call

"As you learn more and more how God works, you will learn how to  
do your work." Colossians 1:10 (the Message)

April 28-29, 2006

Broadmoor Baptist Church, Madison

Hear from missionary, **Bonita Wilson**, Pac Rim; our  
new state president, **Donna Swarts**; LifeWay's  
**Leighann McCoy**; national wMu's **Caroline Jones** and  
**Kym Mitchell** along with the inspiring message of  
**Dennis Ray Smith**, FBC, Pascagoula, and many more.

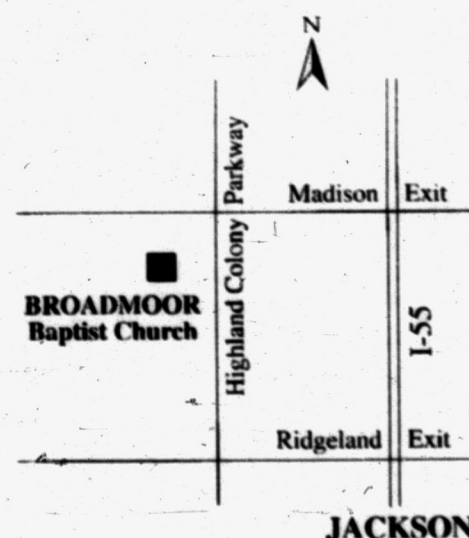
Leighann  
McCoy

### FRIDAY, APRIL 28

2:30 p.m.	<b>General Session</b>
3:00 - 5:15	<b>Conference Tracks* or browse displays</b> Associational Missions Leadership Training Track Live the Call Track
5:30 - 6:30	Associational wMu Leadership Teams <b>MISSIONS BANQUET</b> Reservations required, cost \$8. (No cost for missionary parents, missionaries, associational missions directors and program guests)
6:30	<b>Worship Celebration I</b> Broadmoor adult choir and instrumentalists
8:15 - 9:30	<b>Conference Tracks* or browse displays</b>

### SATURDAY, APRIL 29

8:30 - 10:45 a.m.	<b>Conference Tracks* or browse displays</b>
10:45	<b>Worship Celebration II</b> Good H2O in concert



### LOCAL MOTELS

Drury Inn & Suites, 601-956-6100  
Hampton Inn, 601-956-3611  
Mention you are with the MCB  
Woman's Missionary Union when  
making reservations.

For more info, contact the Miss. wMu  
at 1-800-748-1651, 601-292-3324 or  
kburns@mbcb.org.



Church Facilities  
& Furnishings  
WORKSHOP



## GA MOTHER/DAUGHTER OVERNIGHT MARCH 31 - APRIL 1 CAMP GARAYWA

GRADES 1-6 Cost: \$38

Registration Deadline: March 17 or when full

*A special time for mothers and their GA daughters  
to share the excitement of missions learning.  
Activities include worship, campfire, crafts, recreation  
and a missionary visit.  
All overnights begin at  
5 p.m. on Friday and end at 2 p.m. on Saturday.*

For more information contact the wMu at 1-800-748-1651 or  
601-292-3322.

## 2006 Summer Youth Camps

June 5-28  
Hinds Community College  
Raymond, Miss.

• Affordable • High Quality Camp for  
your Youth Group • Program fees, meals,  
t-shirt and accommodations total just  
**\$165** per camper • Reservations are  
taken on a first come, first served basis.

Information regarding individual  
programs/schedules may be  
obtained by phoning Youth  
Ministry at 601-292-3286.

## Camp Pastors & Worship Leaders

June 5-9

Gary Permenter, Kevin Williams

June 12-16

Jon Daniels, Will Reedy

June 16-20

Clay Stegall, Will Reedy

June 20-24

Ken Hester, Tom Edwards

June 24-28

Kevin Cooper, Tom Edwards

## SOUTH SINGLE-SINGLE AGAIN CONFERENCES

Saturday, Feb. 4, Easthaven BC, Brookhaven

(South Exit I-55, east on Hwy. 84)

8:30 a.m. - noon

Keynote Speaker

Dianne Swaim, Little Rock, Ark.

### CONFERENCES: (90 MINUTES)

- Never Married - led by "Miss Chocolate"  
Gwen Williams
- Widows/Widowers - led by Farley Earnest
- Divorce - led by Diane Swaim
- Single-Parenting - led by Dot Day

Call Lincoln Co. Assn. (601-833-8111)

Cost: \$10 (includes lunch if registered by Feb. 1)  
\$5 at door (no lunch)

Send money to: Lincoln Co. Baptist Assn.

640 Halbert Heights Road

Brookhaven, MS 39601

(Sponsored by Lincoln Co. Assn. Singles & MBCB)

## NORTH SINGLE-SINGLE AGAIN CONFERENCES

Saturday, March 4, North Winona BC, Winona

(662-283-1687)

8:30 a.m. - noon

Keynote Speaker

Renee Scheidt, China Grove, N.C.

### CONFERENCES: (90 MINUTES)

- Never Married - led by "Miss. Chocolate"  
Gwen Williams
- Divorce - led by James Haynes
- Widow/Widowers - Gail Wood
- Finances - Murray Greenlee
- Single Parenting - Tate Cockrell

Cost: \$10 (includes lunch if registered by Feb. 27)  
\$5 at door (no lunch)

Send money to: Montgomery Baptist Assn.

P.O. Box 461, Winona, MS 38967

Make check payable to Singles Ministry.

(Sponsored by Delta/Hill Singles, Montgomery Assn. & MBCB)



## Second Annual Hispanic Women's Retreat



**March 17-18, 2006**  
**17-18 de Marzo de 2006**  
**Central Hills Baptist Retreat**  
**Kosciusko, Miss.**

Bible study, testimonies, music, prayer, fellowship  
 Estudio Bíblico, testimonios, alabanzas, grupos de oración, compañerismo

**Special Guest Conference Leader and Author of**  
**"Does Love Bear All Things?"**

**Conferencista Invitada y Autora de "**  
**¿El amor todo lo soporta?"**

**Mrs. Mirta Vazquez Hna. Mirta Vazquez**  
**Florida/Argentina Desde Florida/Argentina**

**THE GUEST SPEAKER** is Mrs. Mirta Vázquez, author of "Does Love Bear All Things?" She has also written many articles for the Spanish Mission Magazines, "Nuestra Tarea," "La Ventana" and "Quietud." She has spoken and lead conferences for Baptist events in the U.S., Puerto Rico and Canada. Mirta has served many years with her husband Raúl in the Language Division of the Florida Baptist Convention. Mirta was born and raised in Argentina and graduated from the International Baptist Theological Seminary of Argentina. Mirta and Raúl have two grown sons.

**LA CONFERENCISTA INVITADA** es la Hna. Mirta Vázquez, autora de "¿El Amor Todo lo Soporta?"; asimismo, ha escrito varios artículos para las revistas Nuestra Tarea, La Ventana y Quietud. Sirve como oradora en eventos bautistas hispanos a través de los Estados Unidos, Puerto Rico y Canadá. La Sra. Mirta Vázquez ha servido por varios años junto a su esposo Raúl en la División de Idiomas de la Convención Bautista de Florida. De nacionalidad argentina, se crió en Buenos Aires donde se graduó en el Seminario Internacional Teológico Bautista.

**Cost: \$20 per person – Child Care Provided**

**Costo: \$20 por persona – Habrá cuidado de niños**

**Registration begins at 2:00 p.m. Friday, March 17.**

**Registración empieza a las 2:00 p.m. el Viernes**  
**17 de Marzo**

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER MARCH 9**

**ÚLTIMO PLAZO PARA REGISTRARSE 9 DE MARZO**

**For more information contact:**

**Para más información comuníquese con:**

**Mrs. Damaris Medina**  
**Hna. Damaris Medina**  
**601-267-5393**

**jmedina@netdoor.com**

**Ms. Paula Smith**  
**Hna. Paula Smith**  
**601-968-3800, ext. 336**  
**1-800-748-1651**  
**psmith@mbcb.org**



## BAPTIST STUDENT UNION

*An Investment in the Future*  
*Paying Returns Today*

Most Mississippi Baptists are unaware of the great treasure they have in the Baptist Student Union programs found across our state on our college and university campuses. Through Cooperative Program gifts through your local church, we are able to provide BSU ministries on 29 Mississippi campuses.

These ministries provide help and support students who come from our churches. They also challenge them to reach out with God's love to their campus, community, and around the world. Below you will see some of the results from the most recently completed school year.

### 2004-2005 STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

- 17,940 reached
- 2,253 in Bible studies
- 1,139 in discipleship groups
- 132 evangelism outreach projects
- 966 community and local missions
- 164 BSU Summer Missionaries
- 50 served in 19 different countries
- 114 served in 30 different states

### ALL CAMPUS MISSION PROJECTS

Location	Students Involved	\$ Raised Locally
Community	966	\$27,595
North America	580	\$156,205
International	116	\$148,343
Summer Missions	164	\$157,050
<b>2004-05</b>		
<b>All Missions Total</b>	<b>1,826</b>	<b>\$489,193</b>

### The Heritage Fund

The Heritage Fund was established in 2005 in honor of long-time BSU State Director, Jerry Merriman. Its purpose is to provide for the enrichment of our state and local BSU programs across Mississippi. Your tax deductible contributions may be sent to: Collegiate Ministry Department, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205. Checks should be made payable to "MBCB" and noted for the Heritage Fund.

For more information, call the Collegiate Ministry at 1-800-748-1651 or 601-292-3302 or [cminfo@mbcb.org](mailto:cminfo@mbcb.org)



Pray this day for...

February 24-March 9, 2006

Prayer Ministry Office • P.O. Box 530 • Jackson, MS 39205-0530 • Phone 601-292-3304 • Mississippi PrayerLine 1-800-787-7729 (PRAY)

*"Intercessory prayer means to learn to think with God, to have the mind of Christ, to see the world through His eyes."*  
Brigid E. Herman

Barrier Breaker Team members among the Professionals of Santiago, Dominican Republic, prayed to begin a Bible study in an area of town. Thank God for the openness to the gospel of P and P, a young professional couple there. Pray they will surrender to God's lordship and become a testimony of His presence in the neighborhood.

For: (1) North American Missions Emphasis, 5th - 12th (WMU); (2) These days have proven to be very difficult for believers in a Last Frontier country where they have a strong desire to share their Father's love with family members in a neighboring country. They are facing scrutiny from authorities almost every day.

Billie and Steffanie Foote, Lexington, N.C., are approved MSC missionaries waiting to be assigned. Since last July, both have experienced major health problems. Pray for total restoration of health and for Billie to find employment. Praise the Lord for allowing them to see His goodness in the midst of the pain and uncertainty.

Marilyn J. Hopkins, Fenton, Mich., serves as the mission leader for WMU and mission ministries in Michigan. Pray for the "Women of Missions Retreat" in February and March where 400 women will learn to be "on mission" daily. Pray that vision spreads to associations and churches, and other women, girls and pre-schoolers.

There is a great need for a physical place of worship for a growing congregation of Jews in Israel. Each time they have had an established place, changes cause them to be sent away to find another location. Pray for City A that has been facing persecution, asking that their faith in the Lord will help them accept it with joy.

Inflation in Argentina continues. Food prices rose 3.3 percent in November, but salaries were not adjusted. Pray for Argentines during this time of economic difficulty. Ask that ministries will not be curtailed due to the economic conditions. Lift up those who feel called to minister to others at this time.

Pray that a believer in Senegal and the Gambia will be able to resist the pressures of his family to take a second wife. Men are expected to do this for their own status and household needs. The World Team members hope he will become the church leader. Pray that God will help him resist this pressure and lead his people.

For: (1) Baptist Building Staff AT HOME DAYS, 8th - 10th; (2) Pray for the Guajibo believers of Venezuela to be strengthened by His mighty power to have the patience and endurance to hold steadfast to His promises. Also ask that those seeking to share the gospel among the Guajibo will be given spiritual wisdom to honor and please the Lord.

Please pray for the three men in Angoche whom ISC worker Harvey Sparks is discipling to continue the work and lead churches among the Koti of Mozambique after the Sparks-term of service is over. Pray that these men will be committed to the Lord's calling to teach His word to their people.

For: (1) Professional Preschool/Children's Ministers Retreat, Camp Garaywa, Clinton, 9th - 10th (Preschool/Children's Team); (2) Chris and Courtney Nichols, Boston, Mass., are working with the collegiate church planting community. Pray that God will give them eyes to see where and how to join Him in His work.

For: (1) Christian Performing Arts Festival, FBC, Clinton, 24th - 25th (D&FM); (2) WMU Executive Board, Camp Garaywa, Clinton (invitation only) 23rd - 24th (WMU); (3) Please pray today for President Luiz Inacio Lula Da Silva of Brazil (eastern South America).

For: (1) State Keyboard Festival, Woodland Hills BC, Jackson (CM); (2) Prayer and Spiritual Awakening Team NAMB - Pray for continued prayer and fasting on our college campuses for revival and spiritual awakening world wide. Pray for God to touch the hearts of many more to join this movement.

For: (1) MissionsNow, Central Miss., 3rd - 5th (WMU); (2) Pray for the taxi drivers throughout the country of Tunisia who have opportunities to hear stories of Jesus and of faith from believers. Pray that God would miraculously supply follow ups to these conversations.

For: (1) Women's Enrichment Ministry Training, Jackson (WMU); (2) Christian Education Clinic, Madison (D&FM); (3) Missionaries Matt and LuSinda Spann, serving in Antananarivo, Madagascar, request intercession for discernment as they balance their responsibilities. May they honor Christ in the use of their time and energy.

## Set your family on the right course!

Are you interested in:  
A Fulfilling Marriage?  
True Success and Significance?  
More Family Time?  
Meaningful Communication?  
Equipping Kids to Choose the Best?



## MARRIAGE MAKEOVER

Feb. 17-18, 2006

Ridgecrest BC, Madison

Cost: \$25

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER: JERRY PIPES**  
Author of "Family to Family" and  
"Building a Successful Family"

Breakout Sessions on the Four Seasons of Marriage  
Led by Professional Family Counselors

**RON MUMBOWER**  
Counseling/Congregational  
Care Pastor, FBC, Jackson

**DWIGHT FAULKENBERY**  
Director  
Pathway Ministries, Tupelo

**KAY FAULKENBERY**  
Pathway Ministries, Tupelo

**TATE COCKRELL**  
Associate Pastor, Family Ministry  
Broadmoor BC, Madison

**PERRY SANDERFORD**  
Director, Crossroads Christian  
Marriage/Family Counseling, Pearl

Contact the Discipleship and Family Ministry Department:  
gshows@mbcb.org or 1-800-748-1651



## YOUNG RINGERS FESTIVAL

Baptist Building, Skyroom  
Jackson, Miss.  
515 Mississippi Street  
March 25, 2006  
9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

CLINICIAN  
PHYLLIS KIRK

National/International Conductor  
Birmingham, Alabama



Phyllis Kirk

### SCHEDULE

8:15 a.m.	Registration and Setup
8:50	Greetings
9:00	Mass Rehearsal
10:15	Snack Break
10:45	Mass Rehearsal
11:45	Stretch Break
noon	Parade of Choirs
12:20 p.m.	Concert

REGISTRATION FEE: \$15 PER CHOIR

For more info:  
Jerry Talley  
1-800-748-1651  
601-292-3273  
jtalley@mbcb.org

# HOUSE TOPS



1. Unity Week was recently held on the Mississippi College Campus. During the annual event, students participate in many different activities aimed to bridge the gap of diversity. Activities included a campus-wide prayer walk, a blood drive, sporting and cultural experiences, special lectures and worship services. Shown are several students participating in the prayer walk.

2. The Masters of Education in Dyslexia Therapy at Mississippi College has been approved by the State Board of Education as a graduate degree meeting all requirements for an advanced degree by elementary and secondary licensed teachers. MC is one of the first colleges in the United States to be granted AA teaching licensure in dyslexia therapy.



1. Unity Week Prayer Walk, MC

3. The Department of Art at Mississippi College invites the public to attend a reception on March 5, 2006 honoring its senior artist students majoring in Art Education, Studio Art, Graphic Design, and Interior Design. The reception will be held from 2 - 4 p.m. in the Samuel Marshall Gore Gallery, located in 400A Aven Hall on the Mississippi College campus.

4. Ed Stetzer, Research team director and Missiologist at the North American Mission Board, was the guest lecturer for the Staley Lectures at Mississippi College February 6 - 8. Ed Stetzer has trained pastors and church planters on five continents. He has planted churches in New York, Pennsylvania, and Georgia.

• • •

## STAFF CHANGES



Patrick

Harrisville Church, Simpson County, has called David E. Sartin, Columbus, as pastor.

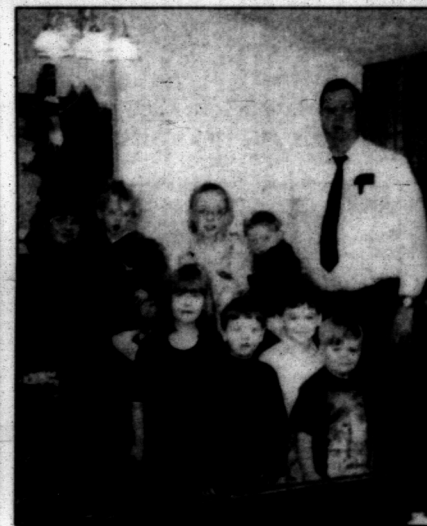
Canaan Church, Philadelphia, has called Eugene Tubby as interim pastor.

Providence Church, Jayess, has called Eric Patrick as minister of music. Patrick received his degree from New Orleans Seminary, and comes to Providence with his wife Tanya and sons Jonathon and Joseph.

## JUST FOR THE RECORD



1. Perfect Attendance, Mt. Vernon Church, Minter City



2. Christmas Program, Delay Road Church, Yalobusha Assn.



3. Lottie Moon Offering, Mt. Pisgah Church, Choctaw Assn.

## "Hearing is Believing"

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1. Mt. Vernon Church, Minter City, recognized Grover Kyle for 45 years of perfect attendance in Sunday School.

2. Delay Road Church, Yalobusha Association, recognizes the participants in their 2005 Christmas program. Shown are the participants.

3. Mt. Pisgah Church, Choctaw Association, met their Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal for \$5000 when GA Elizabeth Wilson gave money from her piggy bank she had been saving for this purpose. She is shown giving the money to her grandfather, Hugh Wilson, church treasurer.

4. The Mission Friends of Salem Church, Tylertown, collected \$61 for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Shown, from left, are Mally



4. Tagert, Wicker, and Henning, Salem Church, Tylertown

Tagert, Seth Wicker, and Dalton Henning.

5. First Church, Fulton, will host a Prophecy Conference on February 26-March

1, with John Phillips and Billy Smith. Services will begin at 10:30 a.m. on Monday and Tuesday, and nightly at 6:30 p.m. Tommy Winders is pastor.



# Super Bowl party gets super results for Texas church

COLLEYVILLE, Texas (BP) — Barrett Upchurch is the starting centerfielder on Grapevine High School's junior varsity team, but before a Super Bowl party changed his life he fielded more trouble than baseballs.

"Before I got baptized, I wasn't doing very good," the 15-year-old freshman said. "I was skipping out on school and wasn't doing the things I was supposed to do ... Then I just changed."

Upchurch is one of 66 teens who found a new life through accepting Christ as their Savior at a Super Bowl party Feb. 5 sponsored by First Church in Colleyville, Texas.

Upchurch, of nearby Grapevine, was one of 10 people who was baptized during the third quarter after an evangelistic talk at halftime by Keith Harmon, student pastor at the Dallas/Fort Worth-area church.

"I started crying and just felt I was a new person and got lifted on the inside," Upchurch said of his experience. "Being baptized, everything felt right. I wasn't nervous or anything."

Harmon said only 24 of the 66 new Christians attended a church prior to the event, which saw more than double the number of conversions as last year, when the party was held for the first time. More than 400 students attended the party, which was publicized by members of First Church's youth group distributing free tickets at their respective schools.

"When we have something like a Super Bowl party, we want to have a good time," Harmon said, "but our whole purpose is at halftime, to see them come into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. If you can get lost students there and they hear the Gospel, they will accept Christ."

A week after the game, Harmon baptized another student, with more baptisms planned in the next few weeks.

Harmon said he started working on Super Bowl parties 11 years ago as an intern at First Church in Springdale, Ark., and continued the practice as a youth pastor at churches in Missouri and Georgia before coming to the Colleyville church 15 months ago.

The Colleyville party included numerous games and giveaways, such as four television sets, eight DVD players, Christian CDs, and other prizes. Although the youth department budgeted \$1,500 for the event, church members' donations more than doubled the total value of the prizes.

While some Christians might question linking up with a worldly attraction, Harmon pointed out First Baptist takes a different approach. "When parents find out we don't play the commercials or watch the halftime show, most push their kids to come. They want their kids to come because they feel it will be a safe place to watch the game."

Chad Reeves, the church's middle school pastor, added, "I believe the same way Paul used pagan literature to spread the Gospel, we can take some-

thing like the Super Bowl and use it to share the Gospel. We use it for God's glory. It's always fun to see changed lives in what we do. We don't always get to see the end result of our ministry. Seeing lives changed makes us see this isn't in vain."



**NEW BELIEVER** — Middle school student Sarah Owens readies for baptism during a Super Bowl party at First Church in Colleyville. The church's campus minister, Zach Schroeder, performed the baptism. (BP photo by Mary Margaret Collingsworth)

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**FINALLY AFFORDABLE HEALTH INSURANCE** for the self employed. Call (800) 541-8196. Provided by Mega Insurance, [www.christurner-ins.com](http://www.christurner-ins.com).

**NORRIS BOOKBINDING COMPANY, INC.**, old Bibles rebound. Also, church bulletins and hymnals. For more information call (662) 453-7424 or fax us at (662) 455-6743.

**FOR SALE:** Holmes county, 42 1/2 acres, furnished cabin, \$89,000. Hardwood and pine (601) 317-2536. Nick Clark owner/broker.

**SALE: 2001 ISUZU DIESEL 18' BOX TRUCK.** Perfect for mission or relief effort, like new, \$15,900, (601) 317-2536.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ARKADDELPHIA, ARK.**, serving about 270 families in a small university city, is seeking a full-time pastor. Send resumes to pastor search committee, First Baptist Church, 623 Pine Street, Arkadelphia, AR 71923, or to [fbcark-search@hotmail.com](mailto:fbcark-search@hotmail.com).

**STAINED GLASSWORKS, INC.**, serving MS & AL since 1992. Call (800) 605-2970.

**DISCOUNT BAPTISTRIES & STEEPLES.** Baptist murals, heaters, lighting, seating, wall crosses, pew cushions, kringlas, carpet, signs. Church Supply Company of Texas, (800) 728-8291.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MT OLIVE** is now accepting resumes for a full-time minister of music. Masters degree desired. Video or DVD would be greatly appreciated. Please submit resumes to FBCMO, attn: search committee, 3200 Mt. Olive Road, Mt. Olive, AL 35117, church phone (205) 631-4401.

**SEBREN'S SIDING, JACKSON, CHRISTIAN OWNED.** All home improvements, vinyl siding, windows, metal and shingle roofs, patio covers, screen and glass rooms. (601) 992-2092, Don & Rita Sebre, owners.

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**DISABILITY MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT:** We offer several low cost plans to choose from. E. F. Hutton Insurance. Call toll free today (877) 232-0686.

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**HOPPER GLASS STUDIO, CUMMIS** church windows, reworking and repair, Columbus/Jackson, (877) 477-1899.

**CHURCH PEW UPHOLSTERY,** free estimates. Davis Upholstery, Quitman, Miss., phone (601) 776-6617.

## MS POSITIONS

**MINISTER OF YOUTH:** Parkway Baptist Church, Clinton, Mississippi. Seminary education preferred, experience in youth ministry work. Evidence of excellent leadership skills, ability to work cooperatively with church staff. Send letter of interest and resume to 802 N. Frontage Road, P.O. Box 65, Clinton, MS 39060. Resumes accepted through February 28, 2006.

**BETHESDA BAPTIST CHURCH, TERRY** is seeking a part-time/bi-vocational Minister of Youth. Please send resumes with references to the attention of Personnel Director, 13628 Midway Road, Terry, MS 39170.

**NORTH CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION** is accepting resumes for Director of Missions position. Please send to search committee chairman, c/o North Central Baptist Association, 1045 Fairfield, Grenada MS 38901. All resumes must be received by March 17.

**NORTH WINONA BAPTIST CHURCH** is seeking a part-time minister of music and worship leader. For more information call (662) 283-1687. Send resumes to North Winona Baptist Church, c/o minister of music search committee, 602 Alberta Drive, Winona, MS 38967.

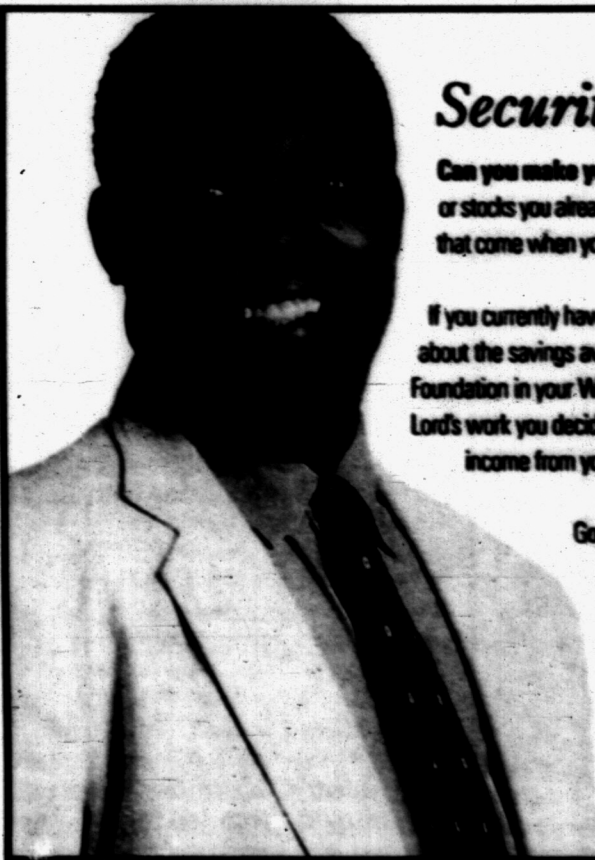
**HEUCKS RETREAT BAPTIST CHURCH, Brookhaven, Miss.**, is seeking a part-time minister of music/worship leader with interests in both traditional and contemporary worship styles. Please send resumes and references to Heucks Baptist Church, 2167 Heucks Retreat Rd., NE, Brookhaven, MS 39601, attn: chairman, personnel committee, or call (601) 672-3518.

**BRIAR HILL BAPTIST CHURCH, FLORENCE, MS**, is accepting resumes for the new ministerial position of Minister of Education. Special consideration will be given to candidates

with experience. Full-time applicants are preferred but part-time applicants will be considered. Please send resume to Briar Hill Baptist Church, P.O. Box 129, Florence, MS 39073. Attention: Terry Warren.

**BRANDON BAPTIST CHURCH** personnel needs minister to children, senior pastor's administrative assistant and paid childcare workers for extended session. Respond in writing to 100 Brandon Baptist Drive, Brandon, MS 39042 for further information.

**MINISTER OF MUSIC: FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF GREENVILLE, Miss.**, seeks a dynamic individual to lead its worship and music ministry. Seminary education with at least 3 years experience preferred. The position is full-time. Average SS attendance is 400. Send resumes to Dr. James L. Nichols, P.O. Box 1163, Greenville, MS 38702 or [jnichols@fbcgreenville.net](mailto:jnichols@fbcgreenville.net).



## Security Gifts

Can you make your current investments work harder? You can. By giving securities, or stocks you already own, you can contribute to the work that God is doing and avoid taxes that come when you sell your stocks.

If you currently have stocks, give the Mississippi Baptist Foundation a call to learn more about the savings available to you when you give stocks now or designate them to the Foundation in your WILL. By doing this, you are able to contribute money to the area of the Lord's work you decide and receive tax savings. And, you can even continue to keep the income from your assets as long as you live.

God's word is filled with instructions to be good stewards of what is given us and for us to excel in the grace of giving. With planning, you can become a good steward. Call us at the Mississippi Baptist Foundation to let us tell you how. And remember, it is not how much you give, but the heart by which it's given. Even small gifts, wisely invested, can make a large difference and be used in God's future plans. Call us at (801) 292-3200.

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THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST FOUNDATION



## FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

### What Is My Part?

Jeremiah 32:6-9, 27-30, 37-41

By Don Hicks

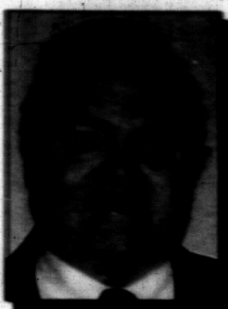
Jeremiah was in prison accused of treason by King Zedekiah while the Babylonians laid siege to Jerusalem. Jeremiah's cousin Hanamel came to sell him a field at Anathoth in the land of Benjamin. Why would any prisoner want to buy a field while in jail? Even more puzzling, why would anyone buy a field when their country was under siege?

Jeremiah knew that Chaldeans would conquer his city and his country. The reason Jeremiah was being accused of treason is because he had been prophesying the defeat of Judah. Jeremiah had stood in the temple and said, "Zedekiah king of Judah will not escape from the Chaldeans; indeed, he will certainly be handed over to Babylon's king. ... He will take Zedekiah to Babylon where he will stay until I attend him — [this is] the Lord's declaration. You will fight the

Chaldeans, but you will not succeed?"

Yet, Jeremiah did his part in God's plan and bought the field. There are several things we can discover to help us understand why Jeremiah made this very unusual purchase. First, we find in verses 6 & 7 "The word of the Lord came to me: 'Watch! Hanamel, the son of your Uncle Shallum, is coming to you to say: Buy my field in Anathoth for yourself.' Almost immediately after God told Jeremiah this, his cousin shows up to sell the field to him. This is the first and main reason Jeremiah bought the field: God told him to buy it.

Jeremiah did everything right to make and record the purchase. Jeremiah had the purchase recorded on a scroll and sealed it and called in the witnesses to meet the full requirements of the law. He weighed the money in front of the legal witnesses who were signing the



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purchase agreement. Jeremiah did all this very publicly for everyone, including his cousin Hanamel and all the Judeans sitting in the guard's courtyard to see.

This tells us a second reason for Jeremiah's purchase. He wanted everyone to know that he was buying land so they would understand his total commitment to his prophecy that God would restore Judah after the Babylonian captivity. Jeremiah "instructed Baruch in their sight, 'This is what the Lord of Hosts, the God of Israel, says: Take these scrolls — this purchase agreement with the sealed copy and this open copy — and put them in an earthen storage jar so they will last a long time. For this is what the Lord of Hosts, the God of Israel, says: Houses, fields, and vineyards will again be bought in this land'." Jeremiah 32:13-15.

Take note that Jeremiah emphasizes that the Lord of Hosts, the God of Israel, is the one speaking and acting. These unusual actions Jeremiah was taking were his direct response to God's call. It is our part to do what God tells us to do whether it seems unusual by human logic or not.

Jeremiah makes at least two more major points in chapter 32. In verses 27 through 30, Jeremiah reminds us that nothing is too difficult for God. God said the "Chaldeans who are going to fight

against this city will come, set this city on fire, and burn it along with the houses where incense has been burned to Baal on their rooftops and where drink offerings have been poured out to other gods to provoke Me to anger."

In verses 37-41, God promises to restore His people. God said He was going to gather His people back from the lands where He banished them. When He gathers them He is going to return them to this place and make them safe here. Jeremiah is preaching this message of coming safety in this place while it is under siege as he speaks and tells them it is going to be burned. When God gathers Judah back He promises "They will be My people, and I will be their God. ... I will make with them an everlasting covenant: I will never turn away from doing good to them, and I will put fear of Me in their hearts so they will never again turn away from Me. I will rejoice over them to do what is good to them."

This everlasting covenant where God will do good to us is explained in the New Testament this way: "For God loved the world in this way: He gave His One and Only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life," John 3:16 [HCSB].

Hicks is a member of First Church, Clinton.

## EXPLORE THE BIBLE

### Relate Appropriately

Romans 16:1-7, 17-20, 25-27

In this passage Paul closes his letter by commending, encouraging, cautioning, and — foremost — pointing others to God. A person can live a lifetime working in the church and yet miss the goal of seeing others come to know Jesus as Savior. Relating appropriately to others is not always an easy task. If it had been easy, Paul probably would not have written so much about it. We are children of God. Consequently we are not of this world, yet we still live in the world. We must remember to reflect our Heavenly Father's love in our daily lives.

**Commend Others,**  
Romans 16:1-7

Phoebe, a well-to-do believer from Cenchrea, was probably carrying a letter from Paul to the Roman church. He recommended her and described her as a sister in Christ who was a faithful servant.

Paul asked the Christians there to help her in any way needed. She had helped many, including Paul.

We should greet all believers in the name of our Lord and let the world see us as a family. Many of the Christians Paul mentioned by name were believers before Paul's conversion and he speaks highly of them. Remember Paul's conversion experience? The Lord sent a commendation of Paul to Ananias (Acts 9:11-16). Be ready to hear and speak well of fellow servants in the Lord.

**Caution Others,**  
Romans 16:17-18

Seldom have we heard a negative tone from Paul, but he stresses the importance of this message by saying, "I implore (or urge) you." Paul recognized that there were those in nearly every



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church who would cause dissension and lead others astray with false teachings. Name-calling is not always necessary, as the false teachers' reputation usually precedes their appearance. As mature Christians, these pitfalls or stumbling blocks can be avoided. Also, we must be ready to lead and instruct young Christians to be careful of smooth talkers. Paul said they are not servants of our Lord but are concerned with their own selfish interests. Paul's words bear repeating, "Watch out!"

**Encourage Others,**  
Romans 16:19-20

Paul refers to receiving a message that these believers were following in obedience. He rejoices over this good news. Pastors sometimes receive news that youths from earlier pastorates are now adults serving Christ and are leaders in those churches. This makes his heart so glad to think how God has used his ministry. Paul says, "be wise about good, yet innocent about what is evil." I had a problem understanding this until I remembered a class in recognizing counterfeit money. The instructor made a profound statement, "One does not have to be taught to recognize counterfeit money.

What has to be taught is how to recognize the real thing." Becoming familiar with what is good becomes so common place that when evil appears it is immediately recognized. Avoiding the appearance of evil falls in this category.

Paul gives us three positive points in this passage: 1) Commend others, 2) Caution others, 3) Encourage others. Usually a relationship is built on positive points.

**Point Others to God,**  
Romans 16:25-27

Paul's Gospel brings all to "Him who has power to strengthen." This proclamation of Jesus Christ was a sacred secret for years. Paul's Gospel was the Gospel to the Gentiles. Now through the Scripture we have all we need to know Christ. It is available to all people. Paul closes his letter with a powerful doxology, "to only God, through Jesus Christ and to Him be all the glory forever! Amen."

May we as believers point others to the One and Only.

Heap is a member of Calvary Church, Waynesboro.

## Guidelines for submitting news and photographs

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted.

# Record

Photograph attachments are permissible.

Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs may be color or black and white. Instant photos and digital printouts

are not reproducible. Digital photos may be used if submitted as a JPEG file via either (a) e-mail, (b) three-and-a-half inch floppy disk, or (c) CD. Photos must be clear, sharp, and well-lighted.

All news items are subject to editing, and all photographs are subject to crop-

ping. Photographs must depict people. No landscape, building, or object-only photographs will be printed. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date.

Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis. Requests to return photographs must be accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Submit news and photographs to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbch.org.



## Bibliocipher

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ECS BLR YKX VH NSU-  
VHCSR LPE LA ECS  
SKUEC; KXR ECSUS VH  
XLXS PNUVBCE KYLXB  
YSX; ECSM KDD DVS VX  
IKVE ALU FDLR; ECSM  
CPXE SOSUM YKX CVH  
FULECSU IVEC K XSE.

YVTKC HSOSX: EIL

Clue: Y = M

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Daniel Six: Four.

## REVIVALS

**First Church, Magnolia:** Revival, Mar. 5 - 8; Sun., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 6:30 p.m.; Gibbie McMillian, speaker; Joe Elliot, music; Barry Ward, pastor.

**Mt. Olive Church, Smithdale:** Revival, Feb. 26 - Mar. 1; Sun., 11 a.m. and 12:45 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Gene Douglas, speaker; Greg Stone, music; Joey Barnard, pastor.

**Trinity Church, Pearl:** Revival, Mar. 12 - 15; Sun., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Tommy Anderson, Forest, speaker; Linda Parman and John Walbrecht, Pearl, music; Kenny Goff, pastor.

**Valley Park Church, Valley Park:** Super Mondays, 7 p.m.; Mar. 6, Greg Belser; Mar. 13, Robert Dominy, Jr.; Mar. 20, Matt Buckles; Mar. 27, Jim Futral; Michael Ensign, pastor.

## JUST FOR THE RECORD



1. Bain, Powell, Tribble, and Hearn, Shiloh Church, Big Creek



4. Rodgers and Sanders, Sardis Church, Hazlehurst



5. Aultman and Crosby, Victory Church, Bassfield



6. Children's musical, Slayden Church, Marshall Association



8. Children and Youth, Branch Church, Morton

1. Shiloh Baptist, Big Creek, ordained Brandon Powell to the gospel ministry Jan. 22. Shown are Douglas Bain, Powell, Terry Tribble, and pastor Johnny Hearn.

2. DeLacy Stevens, a senior at Zion Hill Church, Liberty, raised \$1500 by selling pecans. These funds, coupled with civic and private donations, were used to build a two-bedroom home in Reynosa, Mexico for Ana Isabella Santiago and her family.

3. Cairo Church, Pontotoc Association, recently recognized Linda Foster with a plaque for 24 years dedicated service as church treasurer.

4. Sardis Church, Hazlehurst, ordained Robin Sanders as deacon Jan. 15. The church honored all deacons with a lunch and reception for Sanders. Shown are pastor Charles S. Rodgers and Sanders.

5. Victory Church, Bassfield, recently ordained Chant Crosby as deacon. Shown is pastor Gerald Aultman and Crosby.

6. Slayden Church, Marshall Association, recently presented a children's musical, Christmas Star, directed by Polly Gill, Diane Gill, and Misty Mathis. Shown are the participants.

7. The First Annual Festival of Love, a marriage and family enrichment weekend sponsored by Mississippi Baptists and local Hispanic Baptist churches of the Delta, was

held at the National Guard Armory in Indianola Feb. 11. Conferences were led by a Costa Rican couple, Roland and Zulma Castro, now living and ministering in Maryland. Participants came from almost all Hispanic Baptist congregations in NW Mississippi, including Sunflower, Leland, Batesville, Cleveland, and Belzoni. Shown is Roland Castro.

8. The Mission Friends, GAS, RAs, Acteens, and Youth of Branch Church, Morton, visited the nursing home in Morton Feb. 8, giving each resident a Valentine card and candy. Shown are the participants.

9. Fair River Church, Brookhaven, held a groundbreaking ceremony for their new sanctuary Feb. 5. Shown are church members pulling ropes attached to a vintage John Deere turning plow.

10. Carey E. Bass has resigned as pastor of Mt. Pleasant Church, Smith Association, effective Jan. 29, and is available for bivocational pastorate, interim, or pulpit supply. He can be reached at (601) 733-2296 or 323-2882, or at 417 South Oak St., Mize, MS 39116.

11. New Life Fellowship, Oakland, is hosting Testify, West Monroe, La., in concert Mar. 4, 7 p.m.

12. Trinity Church, Pearl, will celebrate its 34th anniversary Mar. 26, 11 a.m.; Mike McDonald, guest speaker; Joe Wood in concert after lunch; Kenny Goff, pastor.



7. Festival of Love, Hispanic Baptist Churches of the Delta



9. Groundbreaking, Fair River Church, Brookhaven